WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   An information handling system comprising:

2   plural components operable to process information;

3   a motherboard operable to interface the plural components;

4   an external card bay interfaced with the motherboard and having signal

5   connectors operable to communicate electrical signals between an

6   external card and the plural components, the external card bay further

7   having opposing side walls defining a width of the external card bay;

8   an external card inserted in the external card bay and having signal connectors

9   coupled to the external card bay connectors, the external card having a

10   width of less than the external card bay width to leave a gap between

11   the external card and a side wall; and

12   an external card blank inserted in the external card bay and having a variable

13   width adjustable to fill the gap between the card and the side wall.

1   2.   The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the external card

2   bay further has first and second horizontally disposed signal connectors, and wherein

3   the external card blank fills the gap by adjusting to a width substantially equal to the

4   width of the external card.

1   3.   The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the external card

2   bay further has first and second horizontally disposed signal connectors, and wherein

3   the external card blank fills the gap by adjusting to a width substantially smaller than

4   the width of the external card.

1   4.   The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the external card

2   bay further has first and second horizontally disposed signal connectors, wherein the

3   external card coupled to the first signal connector, and wherein the external card blank

4   further comprises:

5   a base section operable to couple to the second signal connector;

6   a body section extending out from the base section along a side wall of the

7   external card bay; and

8   an adjustable member extending from the body section to the external card.

1   5.   The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the external card

2   blank body section forms a housing sized to accept the adjustable member and the

3   adjustable member rotationally couples to the body section, the adjustable member

4   biased to extend into the external card bay when a gap exists between the body

5   section and the external card and to rotate into the body section housing when the

6   external card has a width that fills the gap.

1   6.   The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the external card

2   blank body section forms a housing sized to accept the adjustable member and the

3   adjustable member laterally couples to the body section, the adjustable member biased

4   to extend into the external card bay when a gap exists between the body section and

5   the external card and to retract laterally into the body section housing when the

6   external card has a width that fills the gap.

1   7.   The information handling system of Claim 4 further comprising a

2   biasing mechanism coupled to the adjustable member and operable to bias the

3   adjustable member from the body section into the external card bay.

1   8.   The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the external card

2   comprises a rotational storage media.

1   9.   The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the external card

2   comprises a wireless networking card.

1   10.   A method for coupling an external card in an information handling

2   system external card bay, the method comprising:

3   inserting an external card blank against a first side wall of the external card

4   bay;

5   inserting the external card against a second side wall of the external card bay;

6   coupling signal connectors of the external card to signal connectors of the

7   external card bay;

8   disposing a member between the external card blank and the external card; and

9   adjusting the member to rest against the external card and the external card

10   blank to maintain the external card against the second side wall.

1   11.   The method of Claim 10 wherein the external card bay has first and

2 second signal connectors, the method further comprising:

3   coupling the external card blank to the first connector; and

4   coupling the external card to the second connector.

1   12.   The method of Claim 11 wherein the external card width is

2 substantially one-half of the external card bay width, the method further comprising:

3   removing the external card blank from the external card bay; and

4   inserting a second external card into the external card bay, the second external

5   card width substantially one-half of the external bay width, the second

6   external card resting against the first external card and the first side

7   wall in the place of the external card blank.

1   13.   The method of Claim 12 wherein the first external card comprises a

2 wireless network card.

1   14.   The method of Claim 10 wherein adjusting the member further

2 comprises:

3   biasing the member to extend from the external card blank into the external

4   card bay; and

5   rotating the member from the external card bay into the external card blank

6   when the external card inserts into the external card bay to rest against

7   the second wall and the external card blank.

1   15.   The method of Claim 10 wherein adjusting the member further

2 comprises:

3   biasing the member to extend from the external card blank into the external

4   card bay; and

5   laterally retracting the member from the external card bay into the external

6   card blank when the external card fits in the external card bay to rest

7   against the second wall and the external card blank.

1   16.   The method of Claim 15 wherein the external card comprises a

2 rotational storage device.

1   17.   The method of Claim 10 further comprising:

2 assembling the external card and external card blank into a single assembly;

3   and

4 inserting the assembly into the external card bay.

1   18.   A system for securing an expansion card in an information handling

2 system expansion card bay, the expansion card bay having first and second

3 connectors, the system comprising:

4   a base having a connector operable to couple with the first expansion card bay

5   connector;

6   a body extending from the base to align against an expansion card bay wall,

7   the body having a width and a cavity; and

8   an adjustable member coupled to the body, the adjustable member aligned to

9   selectively extend from the body into the expansion card bay to engage

10   an expansion card coupled to the second expansion card bay connector.

1   19.   The system of Claim 18 wherein the adjustable member rotationally

2 couples to the body, the adjustable member extending into the expansion card bay to

3 engage narrow expansion cards and rotating into the body cavity to provide space in

4 the expansion card bay for wide expansion cards.

1   20.   The system of Claim 18 wherein the adjustable member laterally

2 couples to the body, the adjustable member laterally extending into the expansion

3 card bay to engage narrow expansion cards and laterally retracting into the body

4 cavity to provide space in the expansion card bay for wide expansion cards.